

# Condensed News of the Week

A party of tourists travelling through Yellowstone Park had a very narrow escape from a terrible death a few days ago. The stage in which they were driving slipped over the side of a precipice, but its downward progress was stayed for a moment by its being caught in some thick brush, giving the occupants time to get out. In another moment it was dashed to the bottom of the canon 700 feet below.

Postmaster General Payne, acting chairman of the republican national committee, and Secretary Dover, have called a meeting of the national committee to be held at Chicago, June 15, to hear arguments on questions to be considered and to prepare the temporary roll of delegates.

A deputation from the board of trade at Winnipeg called upon William Whyte, the second vice-president of the Canadian road, to remonstrate with him on account of letting the contract for the new western roads to American firms. They declare that the action of the road was neither patriotic nor for the general benefit of the country. Mr. Whyte replied that when prices of Canadian contractors are near those of American contractors and their work as efficient, he would consider their propositions.

Mrs. Eva A. Ingersoll, who is suing Andrew J. Davis of Montana for \$95,000 for legal services by her husband, has been granted an injunction restraining the present holder of the property involved from transferring the funds from Montana to Massachusetts.

E. V. Debbs has been nominated by the socialists as candidate for president of the United States.

The Panaman government has decided to appoint Don Jose Domingo Obaldia as minister from that government to the United States.

The city council of Philadelphia passed a resolution appointing a special joint committee of twenty-four to escort the old Liberty Bell to the St. Louis fair and have appropriated \$51,000 to defray expenses.

While Charles Noyes, an old time Missouri river wrecker, was rafting among some logs near the old Indian mission in Nebraska, he uncovered two cases of lard weighing 300 pounds. It is supposed that it was part of a cargo that went down with a Missouri river steamer in 1888. The lard is in good condition and is now in use by Mrs. Noyes and her neighbors.

The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the explosion on the Missouri finds that the explosion was due to a "flare back," caused by an inexplicable combination of oxygen with certain latent gases in smokeless powder. The officers and crew of the Missouri not only are relieved from all responsibility for the accident, but are warmly commended for the bravery they showed after its occurrence in rescuing the victims. It is learned that a change in the form in which smokeless powder is now made in the navy has been determined on and that hereafter it will be produced in sticks with a hole through the center. This new form, it is believed, will decrease the danger of explosions caused by the uneven burning of the powder.

Jere H. Murray, a democratic candidate for attorney general of Missouri, died at Columbia, Mo., of pneumonia, contracted on a campaign trip, aged 37 years. He was prominent in Missouri politics.

Announcement is made at the navy department of the profits of the matinee performance, of the society play, "Queen Elizabeth's Dream," amounting to \$1,200 and \$3,714 received by voluntary subscription for the benefit of the families of the victims of the Missouri disaster have been turned over to the navy relief society for distribution.

The census bureau, in a report on irrigation in Nebraska in 1902, says that water was artificially applied to 245,000 acres, an increase of almost 66 per cent since 1899. There were 2,952 farms irrigated and the 527 systems employed were constructed at an initial cost of \$2,463,748. This sum includes the cost of the necessary hydraulic works and the 1,861 miles of main canals and ditches. The increase since 1899 in number of farms is 52.8 per cent, and in total construction cost 88.0 per cent. The average first cost per irrigated acre increased from \$8.82 in 1899 to \$10.02 in 1902.

The secretary of the treasury has issued a call directing the national bank depositories to transfer to the assistant treasurer at New York city on or before May 10, 1904, an aggregate amount of \$12,000,000.

The president of Brazil has signed a decree by which that government grants tariff concessions to the United States on flour, rubber manufactures, paints, and varnishes, condensed milk, clocks and watches.

Elmer J. Burkett called at the White house on last Monday and had a long conference with President Roosevelt in regard to Nebraska politics. While the president will not take a hand in the Nebraska senatorial contest, it is well known that he favors Burkett.

United States Attorney Grigsby, of the district of Nome, Alaska, has presented his resignation to the president. The resignation has been accepted and will take effect July 1st. Some time ago Grigsby was accused of leaving his post without permission. It is also said that Grigsby received money from the Pioneer Mining company of Nome for the purpose of securing its immunity from United States prosecution. Grigsby avers that this was paid him as attorney's fees. W. F. Gurley of Omaha is named as a possible successor of Grigsby.

The United States supreme court has decided that railroads running through the state of Texas must not permit a noxious plant known as Johnson grass to grow on their lines. This course is taken for the protection of the people of the state.

The suit of the Postoffice Department vs. J. N. Tyner and Harrison J. Barret charged with conspiracy against the government, has begun. Mr. Tyner had to be brought into the court room in an invalid's chair owing to his ill health. It is said that he will not reappear during the remainder of the trial on account of his feebleness.

Judge Goodwin of Aurora, Ill., has been selected assistant attorney general for the post-office department.

It is said that the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of America have won 110 strikes in different parts of the United States during the past year.

It is estimated that one million Catholics will be represented at the annual convention of the American Federation of Catholic Societies in Detroit, Michigan, August 2-5.

The City of Boston is facing a bread famine on account of the strike of 1,400 bakers which practically cuts off the supply of 300,000 to 350,000 loaves of bread per day.

The total attendance at the Louisiana Purchase exposition on the opening day, April 30, 1904, was officially announced as 187,793 persons. Of this number 178,423 were recorded admissions.

The Venezuelan congress, after having declared itself a constitutional assembly, conferred on General Castro full dictatorial powers for a year, with the title of provisional president. General Valle was appointed second vice president.

The United States canal commission took formal possession of the Panama canal route and of the property of the Panama Canal company. Immediately after the transfer the United States flag was hoisted over the legation and over the canal offices.

A strike, which is expected to extend to an international movement against the American Bridge company, was ordered by the local union of Structural Iron Workers and Bridgemen at Pittsburg, and over 600 men in that district will go out today.

Sam Parks, the New York labor leader, who was sent to Sing Sing prison some months ago after his conviction on a charge of extortion, died in the prison. He had consumption at the time of his conviction and failed rapidly after he was sent to Sing Sing.

Morris K. Jessup was re-elected president of the New York chamber of commerce.

Indiana has all along been claimed for Parker, and consequently, a dispatch to the Chicago Chronicle under date of May 4 is significant. The dispatch is as follows: "Democratic leaders in the anti-Hearst movement in Indiana had a long conference today. Afterward the conferees said there were strong expressions against instructions in the state convention in view of the turn taken in the Parker-Hearst fight. Two distinct factors in the party have aligned themselves behind Hearst and Parker, and some leaders are beginning to say that it will be good policy to nominate a third man, on whom both factions can unite. Indiana leaders wish to have a hand in the selection of this third man."

Two prominent Chinese officials who had intended to visit the United States to buy machinery for their government arsenal, will now go to England to make their purchases on account of the restrictions enforced at San Francisco upon incoming Chinese.

The hurricane deck of a steamer which was crowded with sightseers collapsed and injured thirty-one people at St. Louis, Mo.

It is said that an effort will be made to exhibit the original Harp of Tara at the St. Louis Exposition.

An Associated press dispatch under date of Detroit, Michigan, May 4, says: James H. Stone, who today was selected for one of the assistant reading clerks of the republican national convention, has been dead for a number of months. He was a prominent citizen of this city.

Judge Carlan of the United States court of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has rendered a decision against the Standard Oil company in the suit brought by it against Emil Branch, the state oil inspector. The purpose of the suit was to restrain the inspector from enforcing the provisions of a law establishing the gravity and residue test of oil sold in the state.

A report from Havana, Cuba, dated May 4, says: "The anti-clerical party in the senate returned to the charge with a new bill against the religious organizations, providing, among other things, for the prevention of the landing in Cuba of priests who are not natives of the island, and that the property of the churches and religious orders shall be assessed and taxed."

Daniel J. Sully in an answer filed in the United States court admits that his firm—Daniel J. Sully & Co.—is bankrupt. He expressed a willingness to be so adjudged.

Circuit Judge Gray has designated Judge Edward G. Bradford of the United States district court of Delaware to hear the Northern Securities case at Trenton in place of Judge Kirkpatrick, deceased.

The dowager empress of China has consented to sit for her photograph in order that the people may be able to worship the imperial image, as is done in Japan.

A writ of mandamus has been issued in the case of United States Judge Wing of Ohio directing him to file with the clerk of his court the papers in the Chinese extradition case. Judge Wing dismissed this case some time ago asserting that he acted as a judge and not as a court, and refused to file the record in the case, which prevented an appeal being taken.

Rev. S. A. Saegesser, an aged minister of San Jose, Cal., died of heart failure, caused by the joy of meeting his two sons whom he had not seen for years.